

Please Direct All Correspondence to Customer Number **20995**



**TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

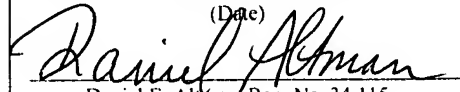
Applicant : Shimoji et al.  
App. No : 10/564,874  
Filed : January 17, 2006  
For : SUTURE REINFORCEMENT MATERIAL  
FOR AUTOMATIC SUTURING DEVICE  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : Unknown

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

April 5, 2006

(Date)

  
Daniel E. Altman, Reg. No. 34,115


**Mail Stop Amendment**

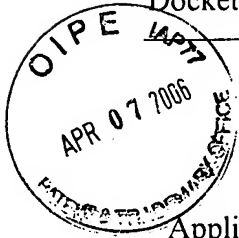
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:
  - (X) Listing 22 references.
  - (X) Enclosing 16 references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

  
Daniel E. Altman  
Registration No. 34,115  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(949) 760-0404



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

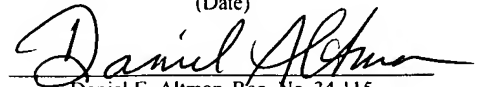
Applicant : Shimoji et al.  
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MATERIAL FOR AUTOMATIC  
SUTURE DEVICE  
Examiner : Unknown  
Art Unit : Unknown

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April 5, 2006

(Date)

  
Daniel E. Altman, Reg. No. 34,115

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 22 references to be considered by the Examiner. Also enclosed are 16 foreign patent references and/or non-patent literature as listed on the Information Disclosure Statement.

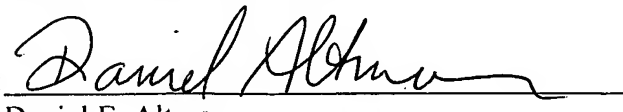
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date, with an RCE or before receipt of a first office action after an RCE and no fee is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 5 Apr. 2006

By:   
Daniel E. Altman  
Registration No. 34,115  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(949) 760-0404

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Multiple sheets used when necessary)

SHEET 1 OF 2

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Application No.      | 10/564,874       |
| Filing Date          | January 17, 2006 |
| First Named Inventor | HiroYuki Shimoji |
| Art Unit             | Unknown          |
| Examiner             | Unknown          |
| Attorney Docket No.  | SAEG124.005APC   |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Document Number<br>Number - Kind Code (if known)<br>Example: 1,234,567 B1 | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Pages, Columns, Lines Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|-------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|                   | 1        | 5,814,057   | 09/29/1998                     | Oi et al.                     |  |
|                   | 2        | 6,063,097   | 05/16/2000                     | Oi et al.                     |  |
|                   | 3        | 5,263,629   | 11/23/1993                     | Trumbull et al.               |  |
|                   | 4        | 5,503,638   | 04/02/1996                     | Cooper et al.                 |  |
|                   | 5        | 5,441,299   | 08/15/1995                     | Lauritzen et al.              |  |
|                   | 6        | 5,542,594   | 08/06/1996                     | McKean et al.                 |  |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Foreign Patent Document<br>Country Code-Number-Kind Code<br>Example: JP 1234567 A1 | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Pages, Columns, Lines<br>Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>1</sup> |
|-------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|----------------|
|                   | 7        | JP 8-47526   | 02/20/1996                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 8        | JP 8-33641   | 02/06/1996                     | BIO-VASCULAR, INC.            |  |                |
|                   | 9        | JP 2001-70433  | 03/21/2001                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 10       | JP 9-308635  | 12/02/1997                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 11       | JP 3237750   | 10/05/2001                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 12       | JP 3237749   | 10/05/2001                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 13       | JP 2004-147902   | 05/27/2004                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 14       | JP 2604025   | 04/10/2000                     |                               |  |                |
|                   | 15       | JP 3136392   | 12/08/2000                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 16       | JP 9-24050   | 01/28/1997                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 17       | JP 2000-157622   | 06/13/2000                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 18       | JP 2000-316963   | 11/21/2000                     | Gunze Ltd.                    |  |                |
|                   | 19       | JP 3040930   | 03/03/2000                     | BIO-VASCULAR, INC.            |  |                |
|                   | 20       | JP 1996-299427   | 11/19/1996                     | Igaki Iryo Sekkei:KK          |  |                |

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>1</sup> |
|-------------------|----------|---|----------------|
|                   | 21       | Tatsuo ADACHI, "Sen'i Kogaku II Henso," Jikko Shuppan, 1973, pages 38-39.   |                |

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

T<sup>1</sup> - Place a check mark in this area when an English language Translation is attached.

|  |                      |                  |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> | Application No.      | 10/564,874       |
|  | Filing Date          | January 17, 2006 |
|  | First Named Inventor | Hiroyuki Shimoji |
|  | Art Unit             | Unknown          |
| (Multiple sheets used when necessary)                    | Examiner             | Unknown          |
| SHEET 2 OF 2   | Attorney Docket No.  | SAEG124.005APC   |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |             |   |                |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>1</sup> |
|                                 | 22          | International Search Report dated November 2, 2004 for International Application No. PCT/JP2004/010566.   |                |

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|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature   | Date Considered |
| <p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p> |                 |

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